



WASHINGTON STATE
GAMBLING COMMISSION

Field Operation Rule Interpretation

Question: Can a licensee operate a card tournament that restricts entry to specific type or class of players such as "Ladies Night" or "Card Room Employees"? Yes

CITE: WAC 230-40-055 Card tournament for fee and prizes - Reporting

SUMMARY

Issue:

Card room operators would like to operate card tournaments that target a specific group of players. Some specific requests have included Ladies Night – a women only tournament, and a tournament for Card Room Employees only.

Reasoning:

WAC 230-40-055 which governs card tournaments does not specifically address whether card tournament operators can limit entry. The rule does allow for customer appreciation tournaments which target and reward regular players. Marketing to specific groups is a common business practice and does not present a regulatory issue.

Decision:

Card tournament operators may have tournaments that restrict entry to specific groups. Operators must include all requirements or restrictions in their tournament rules.

Approved:

Cally Cass
Cally Cass, Assistant Director
Washington State Gambling Commission

Date:

7/15/08